



Welcome to the VIP Initiative

December 2018

An IDEAS –VISN 19 Service and Research Collaborative

COLLABORATIVE PROJECT



Advancing Pharmacologic Therapy
for Opioid Use Disorder

Testing a Novel Strategy to Improve Implementation of Medication-Assisted Treatment for Veterans with Opioid Use Disorders in Low-Performing Facilities. (AdaPT-ODU)

Principal Investigator/Study Chair: Hildi Hagedorn, PhD, Adam Gordon, MD

Drs. Hildi Hagedorn and Adam Gordon lead the HSR&D-funded ADaPT-ODU (Advancing Pharmacologic Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder) study. This project focuses on increasing access to medication treatment for Veterans with OUD. Administrative data showed that the 35 VA facilities in the lowest quartile of prescribing rates for OUD were prescribing to <21% of patients with an OUD diagnosis at baseline. Eight of these low prescribing VA sites were recruited to receive intensive external facilitation from the ADaPT-ODU team. The remaining 27 low-performing sites continue to receive implementation as usual (e.g., VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, and Academic Detailing interventions). As part of the intervention, interviews were conducted with providers to gain insight into barriers and facilitators at each site. An action plan was then tailored to address each site's specific needs and barriers. Each site receives a visit from Dr. Hagedorn and her Co-PI, Dr. Adam Gordon, who provide education and training and work with the site to finalize their action plan. The team is available for expert consultation throughout the intervention as questions arise.

MEDIA

The Utah State Legislature voted in a special session to replace Proposition 2, known as the Utah Medical Cannabis Act or House Bill 3001 (HB 3001)

SALT LAKE CITY -- The Utah State Legislature voted to replace Proposition 2, the medical cannabis ballot initiative approved by voters last month. Working with trained medical professionals, qualified patients in Utah will be able to receive quality-controlled cannabis products from a licensed pharmacist in medical dosage form. The bill was signed by Governor Gary Hebert, creating a state-run medical cannabis program. [Read more...](#)



PUBLICATION

[Barry DT](#)¹, [Marshall BDL](#)², [Becker WC](#)³, [Gordon AJ](#)⁴, [Crystal S](#)⁵, [Kerns RD](#)³, [Gaither JR](#)⁶, [Gordon KS](#)³, [Justice AC](#)³, [Fiellin DA](#)⁷, [Edelman EJ](#). **Duration of opioid prescriptions predicts incident nonmedical use of prescription opioids among U.S. veterans receiving medical care.** Drug Alcohol Depend. 2018 Oct 1;191:348-354. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.07.008.

[Sowicz TJ](#), [Gordon AJ](#), [Gellad WF](#), [Zhao X](#), [Zhang H](#), [Emmendorfer T](#), [Good CB](#)

High Variability of Opioid Prescribing Within and Across Emergency Departments in the US Veterans Health Administration. J Gen Intern Med, 2018 Nov 1; 33(11): 1831-1832.

[Darnall BD](#) ... [Gordon AJ](#) ... et al. **International Stakeholder Community of Pain Experts and Leaders Call for an Urgent Action on Forced Opioid Tapering.** Pain Med Dec 2018. <https://academic.oup.com/painmedicine/advance-article/doi/10.1093/pm/pny228/5218985>

JANUARY 2018, VIP CHAT

Please announce to your networks our 30 minute, virtual VIP chat on January 23rd, 2019 to discuss: *The Case of Moxy: Medical Consequences of Marijuana – What to look for and what to be concerned about.* If you have a question you would like addressed, please submit it to Nodira.Codell@va.gov.

For resources, guidances, past newsletters and presentations, visit our VIP SharePoint site: www.tinyurl.com/vip-initiative